GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:271
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2017
Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan
Bansode Shri Sharad;Patel Shri Prahlad Singh

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) in the country;
(b) the achievements made by the Government under RGSA;
(c) the total funds released to the panchayats during the last two years for the capacity building and training activities in the country, State and UT-wise;
(d) the number of Elected Representatives who received training during the said period, State and UT-wise; and
(e) the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) to (e) OF REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 271 FOR 03.08.2017, REGARDING RASHTRIYA GRAM SWARAJ ABHIYAN.

(a) : Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) seeks to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) by way of capacity building of the PRIs and its functionaries. The scheme aims at enhancing the capacity of panchayats for panchayat governance, enabling them to prepare Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDP) in a participatory mode for optimum utilization of available resources, as well as to provide information on various government schemes and panchayat processes to enable PRIs thereby to become more responsive towards citizen's needs. Under the scheme, funds are released to the States towards strengthening of panchayats on different activities viz. capacity building and training, training infrastructure, human resource for training, e-enablement, Information Education and Communication (IEC) and Project Management Unit (PMU) etc.

(b) The achievements made under RGSA include the following:
(i) During 2015-16 an amount of Rs. 166.53 crore, and 2016-17, Rs. 586.40 crore has been released to States/UTs as detailed in Annexure-I.
(ii) A total number of 48,95,156 Panchayat Elected Representatives and functionaries were trained in GPDP and other trainings during 2015-16 and 2016-17. The State/UT-wise details are given at Annexure-II.
(iii) Trainings for a total of 52.93 lakh Elected Representatives and Functionaries of Panchayats, including 33.88 lakh for GPDP, have been sanctioned so far during 2017-18.
(iv) Model guidelines for GPDP preparation were prepared and circulated to all States by the Ministry. Based upon these model guidelines, all the State governments where part IX of the constitution is applicable, have notified their State specific guidelines for preparation of GPDP.
(v) During 2016-17, as per information available 2,42,863 number of GPDPs were prepared by the Gram Panchayats across the country.
(vi) Total number of 27 State Panchayat Resource Centres (SPRCs) and 267 District Panchayat Resource Centres have been sanctioned under RGSA.

(c) The details of funds released to States/UTs during 2015-16 and 2016-17 for the capacity building and training activities in the country, State and UT-wise are at Annexure-I

(d) The number of elected representatives and other stakeholders who received training during 2015-16 and 2016-17, State / UT-wise are given in Annexure-II.

(e) Following important steps/initiatives have been taken by the Government in this regard:

(i) Leveraging technology for greater outreach amongst the large number of Elected Representatives and Functionaries of Panchayats through use of SATCOM, use of smartphone based applications, use of social media, utilizing short films on best practices of Panchayats and use of portable hand held projectors for wider outreach.
(ii) Trainings on subjects of national importance viz. water conservation, sanitation, health, education, rural development, women empowerment, digital transactions, Sustainable Development Goals etc.
(iii) Enhanced focus on trainings on formulation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs).
(iv) Exposure visits by Panchayat members to GPs with best practices.
(v) Flexibility to States to evolve State specific training plans
(vi) Enhanced role to National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR) for improved quality of training, online training programmes and support to State Institute of Rural Development (SIRDs) / Panchayati Raj Training Institutes (PRTIs).
(vii) Suggestive Innovative training programme for Panchayat ERs and Functionaries involving subjects of national importance and with involvement of subject experts incorporating various training methodologies.
(viii) Conference of State Panchayati Raj Ministers' to discuss sectoral issues, capacity building for Panchayats, best practices and way forward for the States.
(ix) National workshops, writeshops, video conferences etc organized at regular intervals.
(x) Online applications developed to cater to various aspects of Panchayats' functioning including planning, budgeting, implementation, accounting, monitoring, social audit and delivery of citizen services.

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